Jim Watson
Mayor / Maire

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February 10, 2022

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1
doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

By e-mail

Re: Schedule 1 of the *Comprehensive Ontario Police Services Act, 2019*

Premier,

As you know, the City of Ottawa is facing unprecedented, unlawful demonstrations that are threatening the safety of the Ottawa community. Given the current situation in the City of Ottawa, and on behalf of Ottawa City Council, I am writing to request that the Province of Ontario immediately proclaim in force Schedule 1 of the *Comprehensive Ontario Police Services Act, 2019* to allow the Ottawa Police Service Board and the Solicitor General of Ontario to charge those persons responsible for causing a temporary increase in the cost of providing adequate and effective policing in the City of Ottawa, those increased costs.

Further to this end, I would like to draw to your attention that Ottawa City Council approved the following Motion at its Special Meeting on February 7, 2022:

MOTION

Moved by: Councillor R. King
Seconded by: Councillor D. Deans

WHEREAS the illegal occupation of Ottawa has negatively impacted residents who have been harassed and intimidated and whose daily lives have been made intolerable; and

WHEREAS the illegal occupation has obstructed the provision of essential City services; and

WHEREAS the illegal occupation has augmented financial hardship for small businesses, restaurants, and shopping complexes already negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic within Ottawa's central business district, especially in the Centretown, Sandy Hill, Lowertown and ByWard Market neighbourhoods; and

WHEREAS the illegal occupation has totalled approximately $800,000 per day in policing costs, impacting the Ottawa Police Service's ability to deliver adequate and effective policing; and

WHEREAS the high cost of restoring public order and community safety due to this illegal occupation should not unfairly burden municipal taxpayers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council request the Mayor write to the Ontario Premier to proclaim in force Schedule 1 of the *Comprehensive Ontario Police Services Act, 2019* to allow the Ottawa Police Service Board and the Solicitor General of Ontario to charge those persons responsible for causing a temporary increase in the cost of providing adequate and effective policing in the City of Ottawa, those increased costs.

I would like to thank you for your cooperation to date and I look forward to your timely consideration of this request. Should you have any questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact the me.

Sincerely,

Jim Watson
Mayor
City of Ottawa

cc. The Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario